

Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Application Serial No. 09/242,561

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please replace the abstract to recite:

In a PCR reaction, an extremely minute amount of a solution introduced by an ink-jet method is retained on a substrate for a long period of time without evaporation. On a substrate, a layer of liquid, that is hardly miscible with an extremely minute amount of a solution (minute droplet) intended to be retained, is formed. In the liquid layer, a minute droplet is held in contact with a surface of the substrate. If the minute droplet is aqueous, the liquid layer coated over the surface of the substrate may be oily.

REMARKS

The abstract was amended to more clearly define the invention and conform to U.S. practice. The title was amended to more clearly define the invention. Paragraph one was added to properly claim priority. The specification has been amended to conform to U.S. practice and to clearly indicate the use of trademarks.

Claim 34 has been amended to more clearly define the claimed subject matter.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is firmly believed that the subject invention is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 11-0600 with any additional fees required by this paper or credit any overpayment.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned directly at (202) 220-4258.